

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image reading apparatus comprising:  
original resting means for resting an original thereon;  
5 support means for supporting an end portion of the original resting means; and  
a movable image reading unit for reading image information of the original,  
wherein the support means is provided with a  
10 cutout for preventing the support means from coming into contact with the image reading unit when the image reading unit moves outwardly beyond the end portion of the original resting means.
- 15 2. An image reading apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the image reading unit is provided with image reading means for reading image information of the original, and regulating means for regulating a  
20 distance between the image reading means and the original resting means, and wherein the regulating means slides on the original resting means when the image reading unit moves.
- 25 3. An image reading apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein the support means is provided with a cutout for preventing the support means from coming into contact with the regulating means when the image

reading unit moves outwardly beyond the end portion of the original resting means.

4. An image reading apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein the regulating means is provided outside a readable region of the image reading means in a direction perpendicular to a moving direction of the image reading unit.

5. An image reading apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the original resting means is provided with a glass sheet on which the original is to be rested, and wherein the support means supports an end portion of the glass sheet.

6. An image forming apparatus comprising:  
original resting means for resting an original thereon;

support means for supporting an end portion of the original resting means; and

a movable image reading unit for reading image information of the original,

wherein the support means is provided with a cutout for preventing the support means from coming into contact with the image reading unit when the image reading unit moves outwardly beyond the end portion of the original resting means.

7. An image forming apparatus according to Claim  
6, wherein the image reading unit is provided with  
image reading means for reading image information of  
the original, and regulating means for regulating a  
5 distance between the image reading means and the  
original resting means, and wherein the regulating  
means slides on the original resting means when the  
image reading unit moves.

10 8. An image forming apparatus according to Claim  
7, wherein the support means is provided with a cutout  
for preventing the support means from coming into  
contact with the regulating means when the image  
reading unit moves outwardly beyond the end portion of  
15 the original resting means.

9. An image forming apparatus according to Claim  
7, wherein the regulating means is provided outside a  
readable region of the image reading means in a  
20 direction perpendicular to a moving direction of the  
image reading unit.

10. An image forming apparatus according to Claim  
6, wherein the original resting means is provided with  
25 a glass sheet on which the original is to be rested,  
and wherein the support means supports an end portion  
of the glass sheet.